IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

PHILLIP JAMES CHILLEMI,

Defendant.

MEMORANDUM DECISION AND ORDER

Case No. 2:03-CR-991-DAK

Judge Dale A. Kimball

This matter is before the court on Defendant's Motion for Reduction in Sentence Under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A), requesting that the court release him from custody due to Covid-19, his underlying health conditions, his mother's health issues, and his good conduct during his incarceration. The First Step Act modified 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A) to allow a federal prisoner to file a motion with the court to reduce the defendant's term of imprisonment after the defendant has exhausted administrative remedies with the Bureau of Prisons. *United States v. Willis*, 382 F. Supp. 3d 1185, 1187 (D.N.M. 2019). In this case, Defendant exhausted his administrative remedies with the Bureau of Prisons and filed his own *pro se* motion [ECF No. 51]. The United States filed an opposition to Defendant's motion, and the United States Probation Office filed a recommendation with the court to deny the motion.

Under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A), a court may reduce the term of imprisonment, after considering the factors set forth in section 3553(a) to the extent that they are applicable, if it finds that extraordinary and compelling reasons warrant such a reduction. As the movant, Defendant bears the burden of establishing that he is eligible for the requested sentence

reduction. *United States v. Jones*, 836 F.3d 896, 899 (8th Cir. 2016); *United States v. Green*, 764 F.3d 1352, 1356 (11th Cir. 2014).

On February 8, 2006, this court sentenced Defendant to 120 months imprisonment and 36 months of supervised released for three bank robberies in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2113(a). This court's sentence was to run consecutive to the sentence imposed in an Arizona case, Case No. 03-cr-917, in which Defendant was sentenced to 240 months imprisonment. Defendant has served just over 19 years of his sentences., and his projected release date is May 12, 2030. The court previously denied a compassionate release motion from Defendant on September 16, 2020, because Defendant had not begun to serve his sentence imposed by this court and Defendant had not demonstrated that his risk of having a severe case of Covid-19 met the extraordinary and compelling standard.

Again, the court finds that Defendant has not met his burden of demonstrating the exceptional circumstances required for compassionate release under the First Step Act.

Defendant has existing health conditions, but he has been vaccinated, had Covid-19 and recovered, and his conditions are on the CDC's list of conditions for which there is inconclusive evidence about a heightened risk of severe illness from Covid-19. Defendant contracted and recovered from Covid-19 before he was vaccinated. Now that he is vaccinated, he has an even lower risk of severe illness. Moreover, the current Covid-19 strain is less severe. BOP has also taken measures to protect inmates, and the court does not believe Covid-19 presently presents an extraordinary and compelling reason for reducing Defendant's sentence.

Defendant also asks for compassionate release to care for his ailing mother. However, Defendant's mother is receiving full-time care at a care facility. The court does not believe that this presents extraordinary circumstances for compassionate release.

Therefore, the court concludes that Defendant has not demonstrated extraordinary and compelling reasons for a reduction of sentence.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing reasoning, Defendant's Motion for Reduction in Sentence Under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A) [ECF No. 51] is DENIED.

Dated this 24th day of February, 2020.

BY THE COURT:

United States District Judge

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